

**Listing of the Claims**

Claims 1-7. *(Canceled)*.

Claim 8. *(Currently Amended)*. ~~The device according to claim 7,~~ A device for transporting a horizontal stack, the stack formed in a gathering device with upright, lined-up signatures, from a stack support to an intermediate deposit, the device comprising:

a clamp arranged above the stack support, wherein the clamp functions to compress the stack to be strapped and wherein said clamp can be moved in horizontal and vertical directions and is constructed to transport the strapped stack from the stack support to an intermediate deposit,

wherein the clamp comprises two clamping jaws, and the device further comprises a support frame wherein the clamp can be displaced along the support frame in a first conveying direction from the stack support to the intermediate deposit, further comprising a movable bridge support,

wherein the clamp is suspended from the movable bridge support and can be displaced transversely to the first conveying direction along the movable bridge support,

wherein the ends of the movable bridge support are provided with roller supports, which are connected to the support frame, and wherein the movable bridge support is operatively connected to at least one endlessly circulating traction means, further comprising: two traction means for moving the movable bridge support along the roller supports; and a motor having a joint drive shaft attached to the support frame, wherein the traction means are toothed belts, which are operatively connected

via the joint drive shaft.

Claims 9-19. *(Canceled)*.

20. *(Currently Amended)* ~~The device according to claim 19;~~ A device for transporting a horizontal stack, formed in a gathering device with upright, lined-up signatures, from a stack support to an intermediate deposit, the device comprising:

a clamp arranged above the stack support, wherein the clamp functions to compress the stack to be strapped and wherein said clamp can be moved in horizontal and vertical directions and is constructed to transport the strapped stack from the stack support via an adjacent strapping station to a following intermediate deposit,

wherein the clamp comprises two clamping jaws, and the device further comprises a support frame wherein the clamp can be displaced along the support frame in a first conveying direction from the stack support to the intermediate deposit,

further comprising a movable bridge support, wherein the clamp is suspended from the movable bridge support and can be displaced transversely to the first conveying direction along the movable bridge support, wherein ends of the movable bridge support are provided with roller supports, which are connected to the support frame, and wherein the movable bridge support is operatively connected to at least one endlessly circulating traction means,

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further comprising: two traction means for moving the movable bridge support along the roller supports; and a motor having a joint drive shaft attached to the support frame, wherein the traction means are toothed belts, which are operatively connected via the joint drive shaft.

Claims 21-24. (*Canceled*).